

character, compassion, and courage, and she will be mourned by a large circle of family, friends and admirers.

She was born January 9, 1911 in Waco, Texas. The youngest of six children born to Thomas and Sarah Burks White, she was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Edward Johnson, and siblings Beulah White Bridgewater, Eliza White Ashford, Ella White Glasker, George White and Arthur White.

Mrs. Johnson was an honor graduate of AJ Moore High School, which is located in Waco, Texas in 1929 and attended Central State Business College. She married Edward Johnson in 1931 and was a faithful and devoted wife for almost 50 years. To this marriage, four children were born; three daughters and one son. After her husband's death in 1981, she moved to Grand Prairie, Texas and made her home with her oldest daughter, Sallye Moore.

At an early age, Mrs. Johnson joined the Chapel Hill Baptist Church in Waco, Texas and later joined the Toliver Chapel Baptist Church. They were loyal and faithful members for almost 50 years. As a member of Toliver Chapel Baptist, she was active in the Women's Mission, sang in the choir, and assisted with many children's activities.

Mrs. Johnson loved traveling. In addition to residing in Texas, she lived in Florida and California while her husband served in the United States Navy and pursued his career in civil service for the United States Department of Veteran Affairs.

Mrs. Johnson was raised in a spiritually influenced home with strong family values shared with her children. Her children, grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews are blessed to have been influenced by her deep Christian faith and joyous disposition. She was a compassionate person who loved to spend time with her children and their families. Her family will deeply miss her smile, her personal warmth, and thoughtful ways. For many years, Mrs. Johnson hosted large family dinners and catered to her family member's individual preferences.

She was a founding and active member in the Mamie Robinson Social and Family Charity Club until she relocated to Grand Prairie, Texas. The Waco News Tribune in 1979 and the Delta Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in 1980 named Mrs. Johnson "Mother of the Year."

After moving to Grand Prairie in 1981, she joined St. John Baptist Church. As a member of St. John, Mrs. Johnson was active in the Senior Women's Ministry, Ruth and Doris Ministry, Mission Choir, Generations Ministry and Adult Sunday School. In the community, she served as a member of the Willing Workers, Carter-Olive Senior Citizens Group and was a strong supporter of the Johnnie Stanton, "Just Say No" Club. She especially enjoyed the fellowship of the Senior Citizen's Nutrition Group.

Mrs. Johnson was a dedicated homemaker. Mrs. Johnson's love and dedication to her husband, her children, and grandchildren is what provided them with the inspiration in which to achieve their many accomplishments.

She loved her home and was happiest when she was with her family. Mrs. Johnson was also an avid reader. Her children and grandchildren cherish the memories of the time she spent with them in the small library she established in the family home.

She is survived by her daughters, Sallye Ruth Johnson Moore and husband, Vandine of

Grand Prairie, TX, U.S. Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson of Dallas, TX and Washington, DC and former husband Lacy Kirk Johnson, Lee Helen Johnson Willis of Houston, TX and husband Favor DePriest Willis, Esq. (deceased), son Carl Edward Johnson and wife Beverly; grandchildren: Gregory Dean Moore and wife Juana of Plano, TX, Lawrence Kirk Johnson and wife Sondra of Austin, TX, Karlton Jamar Johnson and Kanish JaKayel of Waco, TX; great grandchildren: Gregory Dean Moore II and Preston Andrew Moore of Plano, TX, Lawrence Kirk Johnson II, David Edward Johnson and James Lacy Johnson of Austin, TX, Jay Lynne Kourtney Johnson and Karlton Jamar Johnson II of Waco, TX; Special Niece: Luberta White Mayse of Waco, TX, Special Nephew: Robert Lee (RL) Ashford of Los Angeles, CA, sister in law: Mrs. Fannie Mae Johnson Wells of Brenham and Giddings, TX and many other special nieces and nephews and a host of family members and friends.

On behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus and our colleagues in Congress, may God carry her soul gently in her passage to peace. We know God joins with us today as we pray, "Sleep well my good and faithful servant." May we all know the service to others as epitomized by Mrs. Lillie Mae White Johnson.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ZION REFORM CHURCH OF WINESBURG, OHIO

#### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the dedicated people of the Zion Reform Church of Winesburg, Ohio celebrate the 175th anniversary with great joy; and

Whereas, this milestone is the result of what a tempered people began on September 9th, 1832; and

Whereas, occasions such as these illustrate to us that love mixed with grace and trust will stand the test of time; and

Whereas, it is the fond wish of this body that you will continue to present this work as a beacon for hope to the destitute and maintain your stand as a symbol to this generation that our strength lays in our gracious commitment in unity to each other in the bonds of brotherhood; and

Whereas, you have demonstrated excellence in your calling as a church, anything less would have left you bereaved of such a jubilant occasion, and we are proud to have you as sons and daughters in the great state of Ohio and of our nation; be it

*Resolved*, That along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the congregation for your unwavering labor and commitment, recognizing that all great achievements come at a cost. With great appreciation and respect, we wish you continued abundant grace as you continue to labor for your Lord, Jesus Christ.

#### TRIBUTE TO LANCELOT WRIGHT

#### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and an entrepreneur who has overcome adversity and achieved great success. Lancelot Devon Wright, known as Lance to his friends, is being honored by his community and his family on October 23, 2007 for his 20 years of success leading businesses in Columbia, South Carolina.

Lance Wright was born to a single mom in Boston, Massachusetts in 1966. During his younger years, Lance was raised by both his mom, Joan Joanne Wright, and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wright of Holly Hill, South Carolina. Lance and his mother moved to Columbia when he was 10 years old, and it is the town he still calls home. He spent his formative years at Fort Jackson elementary schools and W.J. Keenan High School. One of his passions in high school was tennis, and he was quite accomplished at the game. His competitiveness on the court was a precursor to his competitiveness in business.

Although Lance's family didn't have much financially, he did grow up with a tremendous work ethic. At the age of 14, he became a dishwasher for a local renowned caterer, Bob Funderburk. Mr. Funderburk served as a mentor to Lance, and set him on a promising path.

While a student at the University of South Carolina, Lance worked his way up at the USC Faculty House restaurant from kitchen manager, to food and beverage manager, and eventually he became a chef. These jobs enabled Lance to pay for college, help his family, and gave him the skills he would need to launch a career.

At 21, Lance left college to start his own restaurant, the Las Vegas Deli in downtown Columbia. He and his business partner, Lenwood Greene, employed 10 people and built a successful restaurant. After 5 years, The Deli, as it was known, was forced to close when the building owner sold the property. Lance and Lenwood then opened their second restaurant, The Grille. The business was such a success it spun off to create a nightclub called Sunset Place and a billiards hall known as Sunset Pub. Finally The Grille also launched a very profitable catering business.

It was during this time that Lance reignited his love for tennis. He joined a men's tennis team at Greenview Park in Columbia. As captain of their team, he recognized that the tennis facilities at Greenview were sorely lacking. He led an effort to get the City of Columbia to upgrade the facilities. In 1997, the City supported Lance and his grassroots effort, and made a commitment to build a new tennis facility. Today Greenview Park has nine lighted tennis courts, hosts numerous teams for league play and tournaments, and provides programs for youth.

In 1995, Lance married Adrienne Felder of Columbia. It became clear a few years into his marriage that his businesses were taking too much time away from his family. So in 1998, he made a break from The Grille and began Home Choice Mortgage in a spare bedroom at his home. The business grew to seven employees, and provided alternative financing for residential loans to many South Carolinians.